

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-4, 13, 20, 22, and 28 are currently being amended.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sperr Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent Number 4,851,162). It is submitted that the '162 patent does not teach disclose or suggest every limitation of claim 1-28 and therefore claims 1-28 are patentable over the '162 patent. Specifically with respect to claim 1 the '162 patent does not disclose a cooler wherein a portion of the centrifugal blower is located partially within the region between the front panel and the rear panel and partially extending beyond the rear panel distal the front wall. This arrangement permits a the housing to have minimal width between the front and rear panels while allowing for a larger blower to be employed in the cooler then would otherwise be available in a housing having minimal width. In contrast the '162 patent discloses a cooler where the blower is located completely between the front panel and the rear panel. Claims 2-19 depend from claim 1 and are patentable over the '162 patent for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

With respect to claim 20, the '162 patent does not disclose a pair of centrifugal blowers located partially within the housing and a portion of teach of the blowers extending beyond the rear panel and first and second sides of the housing and into the wall between the standard spaced studs. In contrast the '162 patent discloses the entire portion of the blower being located within the housing and no portion extending beyond the rear panel, or the side walls of the housing. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 20 is not obvious in view of the '162 patent. Claims 21-27 depend from claim 20 and are patentable over the '162 reference for at least the same reasons stated above with respect to claim 20.

Finally, with respect to claim 28, the '162 patent does not disclose a "centrifugal blower being located partially within the region between the front panel and the rear panel, a portion of the centrifugal blower extending beyond the rear panel distal the front panel, wherein the portion of the centrifugal blower that extends beyond the rear panel outside a region over the water recirculation pan" as recited in claim 28. In contrast the '162 patent discloses a cooler in which the blower is located completely within the housing. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 28 is patentable over the '162 patent.

Claims 1-28 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 11-16 of copending Application No. 10/612,623. Applicant will file a terminal disclaimer to address the obviousness-type double patenting rejection if the Examiner deems it to be necessary

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-28 are now pending in this application.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 26371
Telephone: (414) 297-5772
Facsimile: (414) 297-4900

Keith D. Lindenbaum
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 40,365